

REMARKS

Claims 3, 5-20, 23 and 34 have been canceled. Claims 1, 2, 4, 21, 22 and 24-33 and 35-39 remain pending in the application. Of these, claim 38 is currently amended.

The Examiner indicates that claims 1, 2, 4, 21, 22, 24-33, 35-37 and 39 are allowed.

Claim 38 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Strong U.S. 4,286,002 (Strong '002) in view of Jackson U.S. 4,280,487 (Jackson '487). Claim 38 has been amended to overcome this rejection. Strong '002 discloses a urine collection pad in which an air-impermeable layer 14 having a set of outlet air perforations 22 is located between resilient layer 12 and absorbent layer 20, such that the perforated air-impermeable layer does not contact the patient's body. Jackson '487 discloses a pad in which an air permeable sheet 30 is in contact with the patient. The air permeable sheet 30 rests on a pad 11 having an upper panel 11a having perforations 28 and a lower panel 11b. This is the reverse of the claimed subject matter, in which the substantially air-impermeable layer contacts the body of the patient. As defined by the amended claim 38, the cited references do not teach or suggest, alone or in combination, a flexible laminated sheet material in which a substantially air-impermeable second layer is free of a material overlapping the second layer so that the second layer makes direct contact with the body of the person.

Reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks and allowance of claims 1, 2, 4, 21, 22 and 24-33 and 35-39 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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